



THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA



**Virtual Preparatory Meeting of the 2021 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial
Partnership for Training and Capacity Building
Co-Hosted by Ethiopia, Indonesia and Japan
September 1 and 2, 2021**

Chair's Summary

On September 1 and 2, 2021, Ethiopia, Indonesia and Japan co-hosted a virtual preparatory meeting of the 2021 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial to be hosted by Republic of Korea in December. The meeting constituted of 4 thematic panels, and brought together over 250 participants a day.

The following keynote speakers made remarks at the meeting in order as listed: Minister of Defence H.E. Kenea Yadeta (Ethiopia), Deputy Minister for Multilateral Cooperation H.E. Febrian A. Ruddyard (Indonesia), Director General for International Organizations Mr. Wook-jin Chang (Republic of Korea), Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support Mr. Atul Khare (UN), Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix (UN), Vice-Minister of Defense for International Affairs Mr. Akihiro Tsuchimichi (Japan), Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations Amb. Taye Amde, *Chargé d'Affaires* of Indonesia to the United Nations Amb. Mohammad K. Koba, and Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations Amb. Kimihiro Ishikane.

The day facilitators were Director General for international Affairs of Bureau of Defense Policy Mr. Yasushi Noguchi (Japan, Day 1) and Director for International Peace and Security Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Daisuke Sato (Japan, Day 2).

Day 1

Panel 1 - An Overview on Training and Capacity Building: Identifying Needs and Best Practices

Facilitated by Director General Yasushi Noguchi of Japan Ministry of Defense, the panel commenced with presentations of speakers followed by the discussion among participants. Discussion focused on good practices that can be shared to improve training and capacity building.

Senior Adviser Arthur Boutellis of IPI indicated challenges of trainings caused by supplier led programmes, short-term training, limited opportunity of in-mission training and follow-up, as well as difficulty to obtain troop contributing countries (TCC)'s needs due to political sensitivities. To address these challenges, he mentioned that long-term investment by training providers and multiple deployment of those who trained are desired.

Brg. Gen. Sebsibe Duba of Ethiopia explained best practices of Ethiopia's institutionalized training and capacity building programme in which outcomes from post-deployment assessment feed back into pre-deployment trainings.

Ms. Omowunmi Omo of the UN secretariat mentioned importance of partnership to build sustainable institution in TCCs.

Mr. Vivek Chauhan of the UN secretariat noted importance of understanding a mandate to implement the mandate. He also pointed out importance of selection of leadership and improvement of capability of leadership.

Discussion among participants focused on acquiring and utilizing institutional memory of lessons learned, and importance of building national systems and institutions of TCC itself. Ethiopia's practice to provide its facility as a regional training center is one of ways to share experience.

Panel 2 - Training and Capacity Building for Women Peacekeepers

The panel was facilitated by Mr. Daniël Prins of the UN secretariat.

Police Superintendent Mulyawati Syam of the Indonesian National Police emphasized the importance of integrating gender perspectives and lessons learned from the field into training programs. She also called for the enhancement of language training and an inclusive early recruitment.

Ms. Asteway Samule of the Ethiopian Ministry of Defence stated that one of the main challenges in increasing the number of women peacekeepers is that there are limited numbers of women servicemembers and social responsibility expected from women in the society. In response, she stated that Ethiopia has been doing gender mainstreaming in training process and the chain of command.

Police Commissioner Una Vuniwaq of UNMISS Police Commissioner from Fiji called for the integration of lessons learned derived from repatriated women peacekeepers to improve the upcoming deployments. She emphasized that a gender sensitive working environment as well as improvement of safety and security of peacekeepers will contribute positively to the number of women peacekeepers.

Col Stephanie Tutton of Chief Policy and Doctrine Team of the UN Office of Military Affairs stated their commitment in ensuring that all training documents would include a gender sensitive language which is also integrated in the training modules. Pre-deployment training module should also reflect the real-life situation in the field.

In the Question and Answer session, the Norwegian delegation stated that capacity building starts at home and there are no quick fixes in enhancing the number of women peacekeepers. He emphasized that recruitment of women peacekeepers should also be paired with institutional reform, including on maternity leave and career development.

Day 2

Panel 3 - Medical Training and Capacity-Building

Rolliansyah Soemirat of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs facilitated the panel.

Col Abdelali Riffi, Chief HR Medical Support of the Kingdom of Morocco, presented the need for each TCC to coordinate their medical needs and standards to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of training and capacity building programs.

LtCol Sebastian Burn of the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom Medical Operations called for the incorporation of first aid capability as a standard for all peacekeepers not limited to medics.

LtCol Patel Kashyap of the Directorate General Armed Forces Medical Services of India stated that medical training should be treated as a never-ending process that keeps on going. He further emphasized that the situation presented during training could never match the real-life situation in the field. Hence, in-mission training is also critical.

Dr. Adarsh Tiwathia of the UN Division of Healthcare Management and Occupational Safety and Health presented the UN's commitment in supporting the standardization of training through training programs to prepare future medical trainers from TCCs. She also emphasized the importance of incorporating digital technology in training process.

In the Question and Answer session, participants focused their question on improving the medical capacity of peacekeeping missions, especially given the COVID-19 pandemic. Some participants also called for the incorporation of digital technology in training.

Panel 4 - Partnership in Training and Capacity Building: the Way Forward

The panel commenced with presentations of speakers followed by the discussion among participants. Discussion focused on ways to enhance existing arrangements, such as triangular partnership programme (TPP), light coordination mechanism (LCM), and co-deployments. Mr. Dawit Yirga of Security Council Report was the facilitator.

Col. Hidemasa Murata of Japan Ground Self-Defense Force pointed out that TPP is a framework in which the UN, which understands the needs on the ground, takes initiative to address the capability gaps, and encouraged other member countries to support the programme. He also introduced Japan's contribution to PKO centers in Africa, and expressed intention toward TICAD8, which will be held in 2022, to support Africa's development led by Africa itself.

Amb. Eshete Tilahun of Ethiopia expressed appreciation for Japan's contribution to TPP and noted that the programme benefited not only Ethiopia but also other surrounding countries. Amb. Tilahun also pointed out the importance of AU-UN cooperation to promote decentralized planning to reflect situation on each continent, and requested Security Council to provide resource to support regional preacekeeping activities.

Mr. Herbert Loret of the UN secretariat introduced LCM in which currently 17 members share training calendars, and expressed intention to expand the mechanism to provide information in French as well as to develop roster of human and financial resources.

Mr. Takakazu Ito of UN secretariat introduced TPP and its development under COVID-19 situation to include remote and mixed training. He also introduced AU-UN partnership and noted that the relationship has been developed from capacity building to interoperability and mutual complementarity.

After the presentations, discussion with participants covered increase of women's participation through TPP and LCM, future schedule of TPP in Asia, impacts of COVID-19 on Field Medical Assistants Courses (FMAC), and sustainability of partnership.